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PRESS RELEASE

DCR, REI Co-op to Host National Trails Day Volunteer Events at Six State Parks

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Department of Conservation & Recreation

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BOSTON — In honor of National Trails Day®, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has once again partnered with REI Co-op to coordinate volunteer events at six of the Commonwealth’s state parks on Saturday, June 1, 2019. National Trails Day® is a nationwide annual initiative that is coordinated by the [American Hiking Society](https://americanhiking.org/national-trails-day/) (<https://americanhiking.org/national-trails-day/>), and seeks to connect people with trails through volunteer efforts.

“Contained within the Massachusetts state parks system are over 4,000 miles of trails that provide great access to the natural world,” **said Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Leo Roy.** “The Baker-Polito Administration is proud to work closely with partners like REI, Co-op to ensure these natural and recreational resources are maintained and available for people of all abilities to enjoy the great outdoors.”

“REI believes a life outdoors is a life well lived, Massachusetts enjoys ample outdoor spaces from coastal beaches to rolling hills to jagged mountains, and REI is proud to support these spaces. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, DCR, has been a catalyst for preserving public spaces. The outdoors is for all, and together we can get more people outdoors,” **said Eric Grady, REI’s Local Brand Engagement and Impact Team.**

The six state parks where volunteers can register to participate in National Trails Day® events include:

- Blue Hills Reservation in the Town of Canton – volunteers will clear debris and improve access along the Abigail Adams Trail;
- Charles River Esplanade in the City of Boston – volunteers will remove litter and debris, and perform gardening activities along the walking paths and bike trails;
- Harold Parker State Forest in the Town of Andover – volunteers will conduct trail clean-up work, blazing, and remove brush;
- Middlesex Fells Reservation in the Town of Stoneham – volunteers will install erosion matting and a rain garden;
- Wachusett Mountain State Reservation in the Town of Princeton – volunteers will assist in plantings at the summit, as well as participate in supervised trail maintenance; and,
- Wompatuck State Park in the Town of Hingham – volunteers will replace a bridge, remove debris, and pick up litter.

Trails provide additional benefits to communities and regions, such as increasing recreational opportunities to incorporate a healthy, active lifestyle; strengthening regional and community bonds; increasing resident property values; attracting additional tourists; providing alternative modes of transportation; and supporting small businesses, while also increasing access to the natural world. For further information regarding the volunteer events, please visit the DCR's National Trails Day® [webpage](#) (</event/national-trails-day-2019-06-01t080000-0400-2019-06-01t140000-0400>), where visitors can find event locations, links to REI, Co-op's registration page, and other details.

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Department of Conservation & Recreation

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DCR manages state parks and oversees more than 450,000 acres throughout Massachusetts. It protects, promotes, and enhances the state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

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